PRESIDENT: Upon the opinion which is fairly universally known. Honourable members can take the Civil List and the Pension List and form their own conclusions in the matter.

Extension of Public Service.

171. ✻ **MR. P. O. THOMAS:** Will the Government be pleased:

(*a*) to state the number of officers in the superior service of the State who would have retired before 30-6-1122 but for the recent Government order extending the service by three years; and

(*b*) to place on the table a statement, by caste, containing the number of such officers with the religious denominations to which they belong?

MR. S. NARAYANA AIYAR: The time and labour involved are not commensurate with the advantages to be gained.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know what is the exact number of officers in the Superior Service at present?

MR. S. NARAYANA AIYAR: I claim notice.

Health and Nutritional Survey.

172. ✻ **MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil* cum *Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether Government have received a copy of a report of the Health and Nutritional survey of the villages of Kotilpad and Puthoor near Colachel conducted by Dr. M. E. Naidu L. R. C. P. & S. (Edin) L. F. P. & S. (Glas) Kottar, Nagercoil and two other Medical Graduates; and

(*b*) whether Government have considered the suggestion contained in the report and whether any steps have been taken to help the fisher folk of those villages?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI (*Director of Public Health*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The report is under consideration.

Scabies.

173. ✻ **MR. S. MUTHUKARUPPA PILLAI** (*Thovala* cum *Agastiswaram*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that scabies is prevalent in the State in an epidemic form so that in certain areas about 75 per cent of the public are affected;

(*b*) whether they have made enquiries as to the causes of such outbreak and if so, what are they; and

(*c*) whether they have taken any special steps to combat it and if so, what are they?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: (*a*) An increase in the prevalence of scabies has been observed.

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(*b*) The infection is presumed to be spread by people returning from labour camps. Certain deficiencies in the available food may also be a contributory factor for the sudden increase in the incidence of the disease.

(*c*) Besides the Medical institutions, treatment of scabies has been arranged to be attended to at the Child Welfare Clinics also. The milk canteens working in the State are also contributing to the cure of scabies.

Malaria Control Measures.

174. *MR. S. MUTHUKARUPPA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) which are the malaria-stricken pakuthies in the Thovala taluk and their population;

(*b*) the number of deaths in each of these pakuthies during the half year ending 31-9-1120;

(*c*) the number of deaths as a sequel to malaria in each of them during the same period;

(*d*) the control measures taken to combat malaria in each of them;

(*e*) whether they have any definite scheme to free the malarial tracts in the State; and

(*f*) if so, the details of the same?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI:

		Population in 1941.
(*a*) Arumanalloor	...	731
Ananthapuram	...	2714
Azhakiapandipuram	...	4744
Thazhakkudi	...	5060
(*b*) Arumanalloor	17	
Ananthapuram	51	
Azhakiapandipuram	54	
Thazhakkudi	64	
(*c*) Arumanalloor	...	
Ananthapuram	...	
Azhakiapandipuram	1	
Thazhakkudi	...	

(*d*) (1) Two quinine distribution centres were opened at Arumanalloor and Ananthapuram.

(2) House to house distribution of quinine by the Field staff of the department has been arranged for.

(*e*) A scheme for malaria control is in operation in portions of Neyyattinkara and Nedumangad taluks. The gradual extension of the scheme to other taluks is under contemplation.

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